花とゆめCOMICS

Phantom Dream

TAKAYA NATSUKI 1

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Phantom Dream 〔1〕

TAKAYA NATSUKI

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TAMAKI,THE LAST IN A LINE OF ANCIENT SUMMONERS, MUST BATTLE AGAINST EVIL FORCES THAT THREATEN MANKIND.

HANA TO YUME COMICS

Phantom Dream

Vol. 1

Takaya Natsuki

I... I DON'T KNOW
WHAT'S GOING ON?!
A-A-AM-
AMBU-LANCE!
SUD-DENLY..
TORII...
ARE YOU OK?
FU!
UGH...
KAAAAAAAAAA
FU!
FU!
FU!
FU!

Do you understand?
It's...
...no good.
FU
Do you really understand?
Phantom Dream
Takaya Natsuki
You can't run away...
All of this is atonement for your crime.

TAMAKI-CHAN!
TAMAKI-CHAN!

BONK
OUCH!
SO NOISY! YOU STUPID WOMAN!
I WOKE UP AT 5 AM LIKE I DO EVERY DAY ALL I REALLY WANT TO DO...
.. IS GO BACK TO SLEEP, SO DON'T ANNOY ME,
ASAHI!
TAMAKI-CHAN..
TAMAKI-CHAN!
STUPID SON, WHAT ARE YOU SHOUTING ABOUT?
Be aware of what's around you!
OKAA-SAN ...
IT'S AN HONOR TO WAIT FOR ME, SO STOP COMPLAIN-ING!
YOU MADE ME WAIT TWENTY MINUTES!
You're mean!
What the hell is up with that?
And do something about those eyes of yours!

Tamaki-chan, who is definitely not a morning person,
is the only son of this shrine.
And...
A STRANGE CASE ...
REALLY, I'VE RAISED SUCH A RUDE SON! HE'S SO ILL-MANNERED THAT I CAN'T BEAR TO IMAGINE HOW DAD AND GRANDFATHER IN HEAVEN WOULD REACT!
IF DAD FOUND OUT THAT HIS WIFE BECAME SUCH A RUDE WOMAN, HE'D HIDE UNDER A BLANKET AND CRY!
YOU'RE JUST LAZY AND DON'T WANT TO MAKE DINNER!
UGH!
SLAP!
YOU'RE REALLY NOT CUTE! NO FOOD FOR YOU!
HAS OCCURRED AT KOTA HIGH SCHOOL. A MURDER.
KOTA HIGH SCHOOL?
Where's that?
THEY COULDN'T FIND THE WEAPON, BUT THE BODIES WERE CUT UP IN A MANNER THAT IS TYPICAL OF KNIFE WOUNDS.
SOUND FAMILIAR, TAMAKI?
...
NO...

IT'S GOT NOTHING TO DO WITH ME.
AH! WE'RE GONNA BE LATE!
WE'RE LEAVING, OKAA-SAN!
OK, BE CAREFUL.
...
And, also ...
...he is the only
suc-ces-sor.
...HOW LONG WILL IT TAKE .. FOR THAT STUPID SON OF MINE TO UNDER-STAND?
I REALLY WANNA SLEEP.
YOU'VE WORKED HARD, PRAC-TICING EVERY MORNING.
...
SORRY FOR HITTING YOU BEFORE.
It's like I'm always gotta apologize to you...

SHOULDN'T YOU TRY DOING IT YOURSELF SOMETIME?
I HAVE/ BUT I CAN'T UNDERSTAND ANY OF IT!
It would take my entire life to understand!
WHEN WE GET TO SCHOOL, CAN I COPY THE PHYSICS HOMEWORK?
Tamaki-chan is the most important person in my life right now..
My dad passed away and my mom is never home.
As long as I have Tamaki-chan by my side, I'm OK.
IT'S WEIRD THAT YOU ACTU-ALLY DATE HIM ...
WITHOUT BEING SCARED OF HIM.
BECAUSE THERE'S A BAND-AID ON YOUR HEAD.
Ah-ha!
ASAHI-CHAN...
DID OTSUYA TAMAKI HIT YOU AGAIN?
Eh!
HOW DID YOU KNOW, JUN-CHAN?!
THAT'S BECAUSE TAMAKI-CHAN...
... IS A STRONG ... AND GENTLE PERSON

PLEASE COME IN
HEH, YOU WERE MISTREATED AGAIN, ASAHI-CHAN!
HOMEROOM'S STARTING.
TO START OFF, I'D LIKE TO INTRODUCE A NEW TRANSFER STUDENT.
Wow
EVERYONE, THIS IS TORII MITSURU.
SHE TRANSFERRED HERE FROM KOTA HIGH
MITSURU-CHAN?!

IT'S ACTUALLY MITSURU-CHAN!
SIT DOWN!
OK.
HEY, LISTEN! WEREN'T YOU PAYING ATTENTION? YOU STILL REMEMBER, RIGHT?
TAMAKI-CHAN, IT'S MITSURU-CHAN!
AH...
I ... REMEMBER.
HEY ... HEY?!
SHE LIVED VERY CLOSE TO YOUR HOUSE AND WE ALWAYS PLAYED TOGETHER WHEN WE WERE IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL!
"Sound familiar, Tamaki?"
ding
dong
ding
dong

THUMP
TORII-SAN!
MITSU-RU-CHAN ...
YOUR HAIR IS SO LONG! IT'S REALLY BEAUTI-FUL!
EH? I..
TORII-SAN?
UH ...
TAP TAP
HUH?!
ASAHI!
WHAT?!
ASAHI!
MITSURU-CHAN!

I'M ASAHI!
WHEN WE WERE IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, WE USED TO PLAY TOGETHER WITH TAMAKI-CHAN. REMEMBER?
I TOOK TWO STEPS AT A TIME AND I BARELY MADE IT.
HAH HAH
YOU'RE SO FAST!
HAH HAH HAH
YOU...?
Ah!
YEAH! THAT WAS THE NICK-NAME THAT YOU GAVE ME!
YOU'RE CHICKEN?*
I'VE MISSED YOU SO MUCH!
YOU'VE GROWN!
Ha ha!
YOU'RE STILL THE SAME...
MITSURU-CHAN, MITSURU-CHAN!

*MITSU'S ACTUALLY CALLING HER NIWATORI WHICH MEANS CHICKEN.

PUSH
GO AWAY!
HUH?!
slip
AH...
AH...
UH...
HEY!
YOU REALLY ARE A CHICKEN.
HA... HA...
THAT WAS REALLY DANGEROUS.
If you keep walking around in a daze, what am I gonna do?
MITSURU-CHAN...

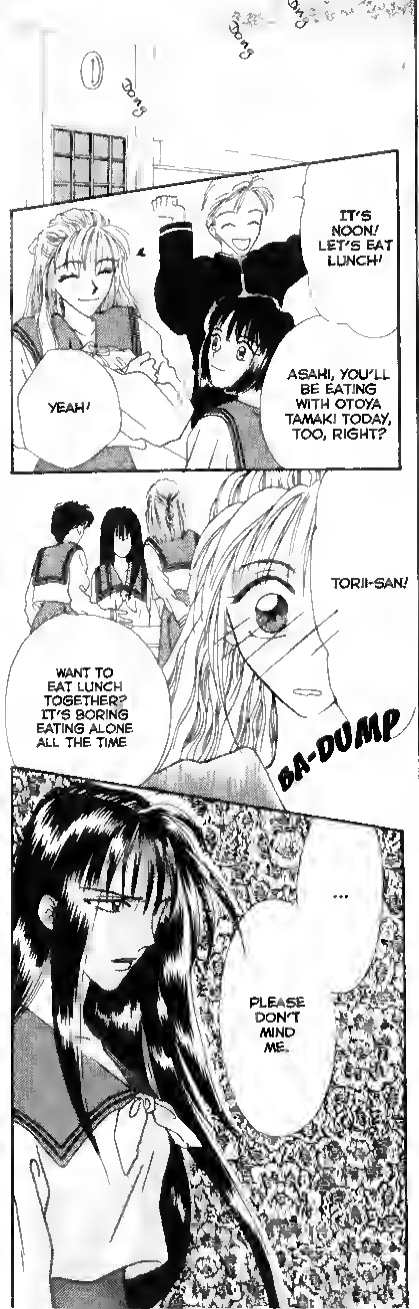
YOU CAN'T ...
DON'T COME OUT!
MITSURU-CHAN?
DON'T! PLEASE!
THIS IS...
I WON'T LET YOU HARM THESE TWO!
THIS OMINOUS AIR, IT'S...
ASP

...AN EVIL SPIRIT!
AH!
TAMAKI-CHAN?!
I CAN SEE IT!
UNGH ...

..
MITSURU -CHAN!
!!
TAMAKI-CHAN!
WHAT ABOUT THOSE BEADS?
AH!
YOU USUALLY HAVE THEM WITH YOU ...
TAMAKI-CHAN, HE POSSESSES...
...THE OTOYA FAMILY'S HEREDI-TARY MAGIC.
RIGHT!

ASAHI-CHAN, YOU DON'T KNOW THE REASON WHY GUARDIAN MASTERS EXIST, RIGHT?
EVIL SPIRITS ...?
THEIR PURPOSE IS TO GET RID OF EVIL SPIRITS.
THEY CAN CREATE THE THE SEVEN-STAR FRONT FOR GUARDIAN SUMMONING MAGIC.
A PERSON THAT CAN OPERATE THIS MAGIC IS KNOWN AS A GUARDIAN MASTER.
SOMEONE THAT HAS DEEP DOUBTS OR DARK THOUGHTS CREATES AN EVIL SPIRIT.
THESE DOUBTS FORM THE SPIRIT'S DETESTABLE HEART WHICH PRODUCES A STRANGE POWER.
...
TAMAKI-CHAN IS THE ONLY SUCCESSOR TO THIS CLAN.
YOU SAW IT WITH YOUR OWN EYES TODAY, RIGHT?
BUT WE DON'T KNOW THE SOURCE OF THE SPIRIT'S POWER.

NO MATTER HOW MUCH YOU HATE IT.
I DID SEE IT THAT TIME.
ANOTHER SHADOW SHOWED UP BEHIND MITSURU-CHAN.
IT'S NONE OF MY BUSINESS.
I DON'T KNOW.
TAMAKI,
ONCE AN EVIL SPIRIT HAS EMERGED, YOUR BLOOD WILL ATTRACT THEM TO YOU ...
OKAA-SAN, YOU NOTICED IT, RIGHT?
BECAUSE I MARRIED INTO THE OTOYA FAMILY, I HAVE SOME POWER.
THAT'S AN EVIL SPIRIT?
WHY?!


DONG
DONG
DONG
IT'S NOON! LET'S EAT LUNCH!
ASAHI, YOU'LL BE EATING WITH OTOYA TAMAKI TODAY, TOO, RIGHT?
YEAH!
TORII-SAN!
WANT TO EAT LUNCH TOGETHER? IT'S BORING EATING ALONE ALL THE TIME
BA-DUMP
...
PLEASE DON'T MIND ME.
THERE IS...
I WON'T LET HER APPROACH ME...
NO TURNING BACK.

HEY ...
YEAH?
SEEMS LIKE IT'S HARD TO APPROACH TORII MITSURU.
SHE'S SO COLD ..
... THE ONE WITH THAT FEELING OF A MOTHER...
EVEN THOUGH I WANTED TO SEE HER AGAIN...
I DON'T WANT...
...
TO REVISIT THE PAST

AT THAT TIME, THE ONLY REASON I COULD SMILE HAPPILY...
...WAS BECAUSE OF TAMAKI-CHAN AND MITSURU-CHAN
...IN THE BAMBOO FOREST BEHIND TAMAKI-CHAN'S HOUSE
THE THREE OF US WERE ALWAYS PLAYING TOGETHER
"CHICKEN!"
"COME HERE, CHICKEN!"
"MITSURU-CHAN! I REALLY LIKE YOU!"
"REALLY, I CAN'T STAND YOUR CONSTANT ENERGY"
"THE ONE YOU LIKE IS TAMAKI CHAN, ISN'T IT?"
"THE 'LIKE' I HAVE FOR TAMAKI CHAN IS LOVE..."
"IT'S THE TRUTH!"
...BUT FOR MITSURU-CHAN IT'S THE LIKE OF A BEST FRIEND!

CHICKEN IS STILL THE SAME...
YOU'RE THINKING ABOUT...
MITSURU-CHAN!
BECAUSE...
THE ONE WHO'S REALLY AFRAID IS MITSURU-CHAN.
SHE REALLY IS THE MOST AFRAID...

YES ...
...
Please wait a few moments, dear readers.
IT WAS A REFLEX BECAUSE YOU'RE FACE WAS NEAR.
TAMAKI-CHAN? WE SHOULDN'T BE KISSING RIGHT NOW--AH! I'M NOT SAYING I DON'T WANT TO, BUT...
SO WHAT? YOU'RE A WOMAN, TOO!
That's too much!
SO WHAT?! DO YOU WISH I WAS A GUY?!
IT'S OK, EVEN IF IT ISN'T WITH ME?! IT'S OK WITH YOU TO KISS OTHER GIRLS?!
What's that supposed to mean?!
WHAT'S WITH THAT?! IF SOME OTHER GIRL MOVED HER FACE CLOSE TO YOURS, YOU'D KISS HER?

TAMAKI-CHAN?!
TAMAKI-CHAN, WHAT'S WRONG?!
MITSURU-CHAN!
PULL YOUR-SELF TO-GETHER!
PULL YOUR-SELF TO-GETHER!
IT SHOULD BE OK NOW TO USE GUARDIAN MAGIC.
GRIP
BUT ...
EVEN IF I USED IT...

EVERYBODY'S LEGS...
MY LEG ...
IT HURTS!
WHAT'S WRONG? MANAGER?
WHY IS IT LIKE THIS...?
MURMUR
MURMUR
MURMUR
WHAT'S WRONG?
ARE THE BONES BROKEN?
ARE THEY ALL RIGHT?
SO STRANGE!
PI-PO-
PI-PO-
PI
...
THE TRACK AND FIELD CLUB ...
I DON'T FEEL THAT STRANGE PRESENCE
SHE'S NOT IN SCHOOL ANYMORE
THUD
NO...
I BELIEVE ...
I BELIEVE MITSURU-CHAN!
I BELIEVE HER ...

UN...
I KNOW.
...
IT'S ALREADY
COME TO THE POINT WHERE I LOSE MYSELF
HEW!
"MITSURU-CHAN!"

MITSURU-CHAN?
...I CAN'T RUN AWAY ANYMORE.
IT'S BECOMING MORE AND MORE UNCLEAR WHICH PERSON IS MY TRUE SELF.
BJT
DO YOU?!
DO YOU HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH THESE STRANGE OCCUR-RENCES?
HUH?!
!
...

I LIKE YOU.
WHY...?
I REALLY LIKE YOU!
I ALSO HATE YOU THE MOST!
BUT...
IF I DIDN'T EXIST, THINGS LIKE THIS WOULDN'T HAPPEN...
I KNOW I'M WRONG.
BUT DON'T HATE ME.
THAT'S RIGHT ...

ASAHI!
ASAHI!
NO...
THAT DAY...
THE DAY YOU TRANSFERRED, YOU SMILED AT ME...
...AND CALLED ME CHICKEN

I BELIEVE THAT'S WHO YOU ARE!
YOU REALLY ARE A NAIVE CHILD
I'LL COMMEND YOU FOR YOUR INNO-CENCE
HA!
I WON'T FORGIVE YOU!
BUT, THERE'S NO USE ..
...
WHO ARE YOU?
MITSURU COMMITED A CRIME...
SHE ALWAYS TORMENTED ME
MITSURU!

AS I LAY IN A NARROW ROOM AT THE HOSPITAL, NOT EVEN ABLE TO LIFT A HAND, SHE RAN AROUND SMILING OUTSIDE!
WHO WAS IT THAT GAVE HER THAT FREEDOM?!
I WAS THE ONE WHO GAVE IT TO HER!
I'M TORII MINORU
MITSURU'S YOUNGER TWIN SISTER.

AND, FINALLY,
YOU BECAME AN EVIL SPIRIT.
THEN WHAT ABOUT THE TRACK AND FIELD CLUB MEMBERS ...
THIS IS PUNISHMENT BECAUSE YOU SAID YOU LIKE MITSURU.
WHO TOLD THEM TO SHOW OFF LIKE THAT.
THAT PERSON ALSO SAID,
"I LIKE MITSURU." HOW CAN THAT BE?!
RUNNING IN FRONT OF ME?
HOW CAN THIS BE?!
SO, THAT'S HOW IT IS.
! ESPECIALLY ...
LITTLE BY LITTLE, YOU WERE SLOWLY LOSING YOURSELF,
I HATE THAT WOMAN!
LOSING THE *REAL* YOU

I'LL DEFINITELY
A FACE COVERED WITH SMILES.
PEACEABLY GETTING ALONG WITH OTHERS. IT'S SO RIDICULOUS.
KILL HER!
GLARE
SLAP
!
FORM THE SEAL, TAMAKI!

?!
SEAL OF THE SEVEN-STAR FRONT.
BOOM

...
ASAHI!
NO WONDER I THOUGHT IT WAS NOISY BEHIND THE TEMPLE.
SO, THIS IS WHERE ALL THE NOISE CAME FROM!
"IT'S ALL BECAUSE OF MITSURU."
"WHEN MITSURU WAS BORN, SHE SUCKED UP ALL THE HEALTH AND HAPPINESS FOR HERSELF!"
"THEY'RE OBVIOUSLY TWINS."
"BUT WHY IS ONLY MINORU LIKE THIS?"
WHAT A NOOB.

IF...
...I DIDN'T EXIST...
UGH...
"BUT I CAN'T, AND NOW I NEED TO GO BACK TO THE HOSPITAL AGAIN. I REALLY ENVY YOU!"
"YOU'RE SO LUCKY THAT YOU GET TO PLAY OUTSIDE."
"BUT...
"...THROUGH THE WINDOW IN THE HOSPITAL, I CAN SEE THE CHERRY BLOSSOMS."
"THE FALLING BLOSSOMS LOOK JUST LIKE SNOW. I'M SO HAPPY WHEN I SEE IT!"
"I REALLY WISH YOU COULD SEE IT, TOO."

LET ME SEE.
THE WOUNDS SHOULD BE HEALED BY NOW.
OKAA-SAN. .
Then this is Tamaki-chan's house?
MITSURU-CHAN RAN OFF SOME-WHERE,
AND TAMAKI-CHAN IS TRAINING.
MITSURU-CHAN!
TAMAKI-CHAN!
BOLTS
UP
WHEN GUARDIAN MASTERS USE THEIR MAGIC, THEY CAN HEAL WOUNDS CAUSED BY EVIL SPIRITS.
IT'S TRUE.
HOW DO YOU FEEL?
Hey!
At least acknowledge my presence!
I FEEL GREAT.
TAP TAP
CLICK
DONE WITH THE TRAIN-ING?
OH,

WE NEVER MET MITSURU-CHAN'S YOUNGER SISTER.
...
!
Sorry, I'm gonna have to interrupt you for a minute!
MINORU-CHAN PASSED AWAY THREE MONTHS AGO.
IF MEMORY SERVES, SHE WAS A GIRL WITH A VERY WEAK BODY,
SO SHE WAS LIKE A CAGED BIRD.
IS THAT WHY
SHE HATED MITSURU-CHAN SO MUCH?
EVEN THOUGH SHE DIED, SHE BECAME AN EVIL SPIRIT...
...AND KEPT ON HATING
ONE DAY, SHE'LL SWALLOW ALL OF MITSURU-CHAN.
HOW DID IT FEEL, USING MAGIC FOR THE FIRST TIME?
OH, TAMAKI.
I KNEW YOU'D SAY THAT. YOU REALLY ARE A BUNDLE OF NEGATIVITY!
A BUNDLE OF WHAT?!
STOP FIGHTING, ALREADY!
REALLY DISGUSTING.
I wanna sleep

...
GRAND-FATHER'S SUMMON, FLYING DRAGON,
WAS VERY VALIANT AND BEAU-TIFUL...
FORMING A SEAL SHOULDN'T BE THE ONLY THING, YOU KNOW. YOU SHOULD KNOW HOW TO USE GUARDIAN MAGIC...
AND SUMMON-ING MAGIC, TOO, BECAUSE YOU'VE NEVER SLACKED OFF IN YOUR TRAINING
BUT, EVEN IF YOU CAN SUMMON, YOU CAN PROBABLY ONLY SUMMON COCKROACHES AND FLIES!
I'm warning you right now, when that time comes, I'll laugh out loud!
Tamaki-chan, calm down!
BECAUSE WHEN USING MAGIC,
THE GUARDIAN MASTER'S AMULET KEEPS THE POWER FROM GOING AWAY.
GRAND-FATHER...
TAMAKI,
YOU HAVE TO HAVE THE BEADS WITH YOU ALL THE TIME,
OK,
LET'S HAVE YOU DECIDE ON HOW TO DEAL WITH MITSURU-CHAN'S PROBLEM.
STANDS

I...
...WAS ALWAYS RUNNING AWAY.
BECAUSE YOU'RE THE ONLY GUARDIAN MASTER.
TAP TAP
GUARDIAN MAGIC IS A CROCK OF SHIT!
YOU CAN'T KEEP A LOOKOUT FOR CRAP LIKE THAT.
THE PERSON HAS TO GO CRAZY BEFORE WE NOTICE A PROBLEM. HOW CAN WE EVEN CALL OURSELVES GUARDIAN MASTERS?!
AND ...
MY POWER'S NOT STRONG ENOUGH...
GETTING RID OF AN EVIL SPIRIT COMPLETELY BY MYSELF MIGHT NOT BE POSSIBLE...

WHY ARE YOU SAYING THAT AT A TIME LIKE THIS?
NO MATTER THE SITU-ATION,
NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS ...
... I STILL LIKE YOU.
FAINTS
I LIKE YOU.
TAMAKI-CHAN,
IT REALLY IS A USELESS POWER.
"KILL HER"
I HAVE TO THINK OF A WAY.
TAMAKI-CHAN...?

EVER SINCE WE WERE KIDS, I CAN'T REMEMBER HOW MANY TIMES HE'S DONE THIS...
THIS IS TAMAKI-CHAN'S SECRET SIGNAL...
TAMAKI-CHAN!
KNOCK
TAMAKI'S SECRET SIGNAL.
...WHICH I CAN EASILY UNDERSTAND

I LIKE YOU.
TAMAKI!
I'LL DO WHAT IT TAKES
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?
THAT'S RIGHT!
FOR THE WOMAN YOU LOVE!
Ha-ha!
!
Pant Pant

GOOD LUCK!
SLAM
...
AHH! THE PASSION OF YOUTH!
IT'S GOOD TO BE YOUNG!
I'M LEAVING!

IF I MAKE HIM WAIT, HE'LL DEFINITELY BE UPSET...
I HAVE TO GET THERE BEFORE TAMAKI-CHAN!
Hurry up!
Hurry up!
WAH!
OH, NO! I SPENT TOO MUCH TIME DOING MY HAIR!

MINORU-CHAN?
...
MITSURU-CHAN...
COME WITH ME—
ASAHI.
What the fuck?

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We need an editor for this lovely project. If anyone is interested, please email us at info@entropy.com

THIS IS WHERE MITSURU-CHAN LIVED BEFORE.
THIS IS MY ROOM
I WOULD LAY HERE ALL ALONE
ASAHI, YOUR LOVE IS DEEP, RIGHT?
I'VE BEEN THINKING HOW SHOULD I KILL YOU?
AND I THOUGHT OF THE BEST WAY

I'LL LET THE MITSURU-CHAN YOU LIKE THE MOST KILL YOU WITH HER OWN HANDS.
MINORU-CHAN,
TAMAKI-CHAN WILL DEFINITELY COME HERE.
SINCE WE WERE KIDS, NO MATTER WHERE I WAS,
HE WAS ALWAYS ABLE TO FIND ME.
...
CHICKEN'S BEEN LIKE THIS SINCE BEFORE.
HUH?!
MITSURU-CHAN?!
I'VE BEEN THINKING A LOT RECENTLY.
BEFORE, TAMAKI ONLY CARED ABOUT STATUS AND DIDN'T CARE ABOUT OTHERS.
THAT'S WHY HE GREW CLOSE TO YOU.
BECAUSE YOU LOVE HIM SO MUCH.

YOU'RE WRONG!
UGH...
I'M ALSO LIKE HIM.
"MITSURU-CHAN!"
IF I...
"I REALLY LIKE YOU!"
...COULD HAVE LOVED HER LIKE THAT...
MINORU-CHAN PURPOSELY DISTANCED HERSELF.
SEAL OF THE SEVEN-STAR FRONT!
CLATTER
NO!
RUN, QUICKLY! ASA...
IT'S NO USE...
...
DIE!
AND, THEN, LET TAMAKI REGRET. REGRET!

EDITOR'S NOTE: IF WE WERE TO ACTUALLY TRANSLATE THIS CHANT, YOU WOULDN'T UNDERSTAND IT ANYWAY.

THE POWER OF GUARDIAN MAGIC...
te no hira!
THIS IS...
...
MITSURU-CHAN?
CHICKEN ...

TAMAKI-CHAN! YOU'RE AMAZING!
ARE YOU HURT?
YOU CAN DO IT NOW! YOU CAN SUMMON GUARDIANS! THAT'S AMAZING!
UGH!
YOU IDIOT!
MITSURU-CHAN!
MINORU-CHAN ...
WHERE IS SHE?!
...
MINORU-CHAN?
SHE DIDN'T REALLY EXIST.
?!
YOU, YOURSELF ...
NOTICED THAT MUCH, RIGHT?
YOU WERE THE EVIL SPIRIT.
THE MINORU-CHAN THAT HATED MITSURU-CHAN ...
NEVER EXISTED FROM THE BEGIN-NING.
YOU WERE THE ONE WHO CREATED EVERY-THING.

TH' TIS RIGHT, THEY HATEFUL ME!
YOU'RE UGLY!
AHHHH!
OSH
THIS IS..
WHY?! WHY?!
DIDN'T YOU GET RID OF IT ALREADY ?!
CRACKLE
CRACKLE
DAMN!
...AN EVIL HEART AGAIN!
IT DIDN'T DISAPPEAR ENTIRELY YET,
AND SHE MADE. .

MITSURU-CHAN!
WHY DON'T YOU SHARE YOUR TROUBLED THOUGHTS WITH ME?!
!!
I WILL SEAL THEM UP FOR YOU!
YOU'RE SLY!
SINCE YOU CAN'T ATONE FOR YOUR SINS THROUGH DEATH...
...THEN TORMENT AND TORTURE YOURSELF FOREVER!
IF WE THINK HARD ENOUGH THERE DEFINITELY HAS TO BE ANOTHER WAY!
WE DON'T HAVE THE TIME FOR THAT!
BUT, DON'T YOU THINK THIS IS THE ONLY WAY NOW?
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING, YOU STUPID WOMAN?!

AH!
NO!
THAT'S NOT A PROBLEM!
WHAT IF YOU GET HURT?!
BECAUSE I'M FILLED WITH LOVE!
You could say I have the power to destroy the evil spirit
BELIEVE ME!
MITSURU-CHAN!
REALLY.. I CAN'T TAKE YOUR ENERGY...
LET'S TRY AND SEE!

WHAT SHOULD I DO...
UGH...
...TO GET RID OF THE EVIL INSIDE ME?!
I'LL TRANSPORT IT FOR YOU!
POOF
!
!
DON'T WORRY!
I LOVE YOU THE MOST!
MINORU-CHAN!
IT'S TRUE...
...JUST SAYING THIS IS ENOUGH!

...
YEAH.
IT'S MINORU-CHAN.
COME HERE.
IF IT'S LIKE THIS..
...THE EVIL WILL DEFINITELY GO...
WHAT IS IT?
CHICKEN!
...
SMILED.
MINORU-CHAN JUST...
...
IT'S DEFI-NITELY GONE AWAY...
IT'S ALL OVER!

SHH...
AND, I, MYSELF...
YEAH...
A VERY GENTLE SMILE...
YOU CAN'T TALK LIKE THAT ANYMORE.
...VERY GENTLE...
YOU WERE IN PAIN AS WELL.
IT'S OK.
OR ELSE MINORU-CHAN...
...WON'T BE ABLE TO REST PEACE-FULLY IN HEAVEN, RIGHT?

I SHOULDN'T HAVE THIS KIND OF POWER YET!
WHO HELPED ME?
...
REALLY.
IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME SINCE I CALLED A SPIRIT, SO I WASN'T TOO CONFIDENT.
WHY...?
WHY DID MINORU-CHAN DESCEND HERE?
BUT, IT'S WEIRD
YEAH ...
WHY IS IT...
...THAT MY HEART IS FULL OF SORROW?
GOOD. IT LOOKS LIKE IT ALL WENT WELL.

FOR A LONG TIME, EVER SINCE I FIRST BEGAN HOLDING THAT SMALL HAND OF YOURS, I'VE LOVED YOU.
I'VE LOVED YOU ALL ALONG!
THIS TREE REALLY BRINGS BACK MEMORIES.
I NEVER THOUGHT THAT THINGS WOULD STILL BE THE SAME.
WHAT IS IT?
HA HA!
NO MATTER WHAT YOU THINK,
I BELIEVE GUARDIAN MAGIC ISN'T USELESS.
EPILAPSE
WHAT IS IT?!
TAMAKI-CHAN!
?!

THEN, LET HIM SLEEP!
I'LL GO BUY SOMETHING TO DRINK.
Zzzzz
HE FELL ASLEEP.
...
HIS SLEEPING FACE...
...IS REALLY INNOCENT!
SLEEP WELL!
BUT WE ENDED UP SKIPPING CLASS TODAY... OH, WELL!
Meanwhile, the Track and Field Team
GREAT! LET'S AIM TO WIN THE DISTRICT TOURNAMENT!
WE'RE SO LUCKY! IT'S A MIRACLE!
WHAT?!
IT'S OK NOW!

Phantom Dream

VOLUME 1 CHAPTER 1

TAKAYA NATSUKI

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WE WANT YOU!

Entropy is searching for experienced Editors and Japanese and Korean translators for several Shoujo, Josei, Shonen and Seinen projects, If interested, please e-mail us at info@entropy-manga.com or stop by our channel, #entropy@irchighway.net, and pm riseabove77, Jlindgren or Saga.

PHANTOM DREAM
幻夢

I'VE DONE MY BEST ...
PLEASE PREPARE YOURSELF FOR THE WORST.
No matter who they are, all people have evil hearts.
There's evil deep down in everyone's hearts.
grumble
But you can't let the evil grab a hold of you.
You absolutely can't..
MOM ...?
GO CRAZY!

ARE MY BUTTERFLIES WELL?
...if you don't want the evil spirit that hurts and mangles people to swallow you up...
OH, YOU WHO HAS COME HERE
STAND BEFORE ME TAKE FORM...
Swirl
FLY!
...

GOOD JOB PRACTICING!
...
SOB S
So awesome!
TO HAVE SALMON SO EARLY IN THE MORNING!
I am so touched!!
Tamaki-chan is a young family-head in the clan of Guarding Masters...
...
TAMAKI-CHAN, HOW MUCH SALMON DO YOU WANT? ENOUGH TO MAKE YOU DIE?
ASAHI-CHAN, GIVE ME ENOUGH TO MAKE ME DIE
That's too much!
IT'S NOT LIKE I'M DOING THIS FOR THE FIRST TIME
WHY ARE YOU HERE DURING BREAK-FAST?
blah blah blah blah
ANYWAY, JUST EAT.
GO AND MAKE SOME TEA FIRST, TAMAKI!
OLD HAG!

...and also the heir.
OH, THAT'S RIGHT. TAMAKI,
YOU KNOW HOW TO SUMMON THE SERVANT NOW, RIGHT?
The task of Guarding Masters
is to wield the powers to protect someone, using the seven-star front.
His task is to exorcise people who have transformed into evil spirits by the dark thoughts in their heart.
NOT YET, HUH?
EH?

Tamaki-chan, not yet?
Ah! Wah! Ah!
What to do? What to do? What to do?
THE SERVANT IS LIKE A STEPPING STONE,
AND IT CAN REPLACE A MAGIC USER'S LONG SIGHT.
TO CLARIFY, THIS IS SOMETHING THAT SHOULD BE EASIER TO SUMMON THAN THE GUARDING POWERS.
WHY ARE YOU SO IMPATIENT ABOUT IT?
IT'S WEIRD THAT YOU'RE ABLE TO USE DIFFICULT MAGIC LIKE THE GUARDING POWERS WHEN YOU HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO SUMMON THE SERVANT.
HA HA
SNAP
I mentioned it last time!
IT MAY NOT ALWAYS BE A BIRD DEPENDING ON ITS MASTER'S CHARACTER, IT MAY ONE DAY TURN OUT TO BE A—
Cockroach?
Oh, right
MAYBE HE DOESN'T KNOW WHAT TO SUMMON?
TAMAKI-CHAN'S GUARDING POWERS TAKE THE FORM OF A BIRD, RIGHT?
HMM, ABOUT THAT—
I haven't seen it with my own eyes

AND?
AND ...
...
OK! DON'T BE MAD!
IT'S OK IF IT'S IMPOSSIBLE FOR YOU TO SUMMON IT RIGHT AWAY!
THE SKY'S BLUE, YOUR BODY'S HEALTHY, AND YOU HAVE A BENTOU!*
YOU STILL HAVE ME!
*boxed lunch
YOU GOT ME THERE ...
WE'LL BE LATE IF WE DON'T HURRY.
AH!
OH, NO!

WHAT'S THIS...?
AWE-SOME!

YOU'RE ...
GOOD PEOPLE.
SO THE BUTTERFLIES LIKE YOU.
BUT,
THEY LIKE YOU BEST!

SINGING AND DANCING AT THE SAME TIME, SAYING...
I LOVE YOU!
I LOVE YOU!
DID YOU KNOW?
THE BUTTERFLIES ARE SINGING.
ARE YOU THE ONE WHO'S TAKING CARE OF THESE BUTTERFLIES?
YES. WHAT'S YOUR NAME, ONEE-CHAN?*
I'M ASAHI. HE'S TAMAKI.
bleh
JUST KIDDING!

*A way to address a girl who's older than you

HE'S THE ONE I LIKE! ♡
hee hee
Call
SOU-ICHI ...?
I'M SOU-ICHI.
Hi Ho!
Bye-bye!
COME AGAIN WHEN YOU'RE FREE!
I'VE BROUGHT SNACKS.
WHY DON'T YOU EAT A LITTLE...?
DON'T COME IN!
Clatter
AH...!!

UGH ...
TAMAKI-CHAN?
DAMN ...
I HOPE MY INTUITION'S WRONG, BUT...
WHY CAN'T YOU REMEMBER?
You definitely mustn't let the evil inside your heart..
DIDN'T I SAY IT BEFORE? ANYONE WHO THE BUTTERFLIES DON'T LIKE IS NOT ALLOWED TO COME NEAR THIS GARDEN.
...trap you!
creak
If you don't want to...
...become an evil spirit!

The way that cut is made can only mean--!
WHAT'S WRONG?
WHY HAVEN'T YOU GONE TO SCHOOL ALREADY?
This kid is an evil spirit?
YOU...
WHEN DID YOU GET THAT?
THAT?
ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT THIS?
Kerakle

HUH ...?
THE WOUNDS HAVE HEALED...
!
?!
sfx. grab
His powers are really weak, which means he hasn't fully turned into an evil spirit yet...
YOU SAID YOU'RE SOUICHI, RIGHT?
I HAVE TO TAKE THAT AWAY.
THIS IS FOR YOUR OWN GOOD.
OH ...?
THIS IS YOUR CALLING?
EVEN THOUGH IT'LL LEAD TO MY DEATH?

YOU STILL WANT TO...
KILL ME...?
WAIT A MINUTE ...!
EH?
A FEW MINUTES AFTER I COMMITTED SUICIDE,
I RECEIVED THIS POWER.
THE ONLY REASON THAT I'M ALIVE IS BECAUSE OF THIS POWER
EVEN THOUGH IT'S LIKE THIS...

CAN YOU SAVE HIM?
CAN YOU THINK OF A WAY?
WAIT A MINUTE!
ARE YOU THE SON OF THE TEMPLE GUARDIAN AROUND HERE?
I'M WILLING TO GO TO THE TEMPLE!
IF I NEED TO PAY FOR IT, I'M WILLING TO PAY ANY SUM OF MONEY!
Die.
PLEASE SAVE HIM...!
I will die.
SOUICHI NOCHIZOU LIVES WITH HIS PARENTS.
HIS FATHER IS A LAWYER.

REALLY!
HE COMMITTED SUICIDE AFTER HE FELL IN RANK FROM THE TESTS TAKEN DURING THE SPRING.
A FEW MINUTES AFTER ALL SIGNS OF LIFE CEASED AT THE HOSPITAL, THE SIGNAL SUDDENLY CAME BACK! HE PROBABLY MADE USE OF AN EVIL HEART.
IF YOU COULD SUMMON THE SERVANT, THESE MATTERS COULD HAVE BEEN INVESTIGATED MORE THOROUGHLY.
THAT CHILD'S MOM SEEMS TO BE MENTALLY UNSTABLE.
"My son has totally changed! He has..."
"...scary power!"
"He'll kill me one day!"
IT DOESN'T MATTER IF HE DIES?
YOU NEED TO EXORCISE THE EVIL SPIRIT IN HIM AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

AH ...
Flop
IT'S UN-AVOIDABLE.
TAMAKI-CHAN, YOU FORGOT TO BRING THE BEADS WITH YOU.
TAMAKI-CHAN!
IT'S AN IMPORTANT THING THAT PROTECTS THE GUARDING MASTERS, RIGHT?
OR ELSE YOU WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO USE THE GUARDING POWERS AT IMPORTANT TIMES!

pat
close
Why ...?
It's not worth it to protect Gilbert's Master's life.

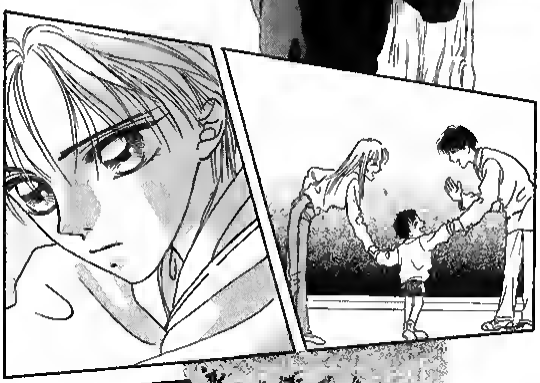
I AM NO LONGER ...
AFRAID OF BEING LONELY.
EVEN IF THERE'S NOBODY AROUND ME,
IT'S OK AS LONG AS YOU'RE HERE.
Why can't I protect this child's life?

The Punch of Two

I'm giving this my all (I'm still talking about it?) since it's one of my few hardest works It's really hard...

When I look through other mangaka's first works, I can't help but wonder (you don't need to do that!) if they should have written an introduction about themselves. I kept thinking, "How should I write it? How should I write it? Yeah... Should I write one?"

Well, Takaya Natsuki, this living organism, was born on July 7th, has the cancer sign, has blood type A, and is resting near the Edo River in Tokyo City. She could be labeled as a Tokyo peep. She likes a lot of things, and the number of likes will probably only increase with time! She hates shallots, pumpkins, and green peppers (Brat.) She will faint as soon as she eats them. A random mention, she's left handed by the way.



I'M LATE!
I'M LATE!
EH?
ISN'T THAT SOUICHI NOCHIZOU?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
REALLY.
YOU SHOULD GO TO SCHOOL LIKE A GOOD BOY.
EVEN IF IT'S A SECOND-RATE SCHOOL.
OR WERE YOU SCOLDED BY YOUR DAD AGAIN?
?!
SAY THAT AGAIN!
THUD
BANG

I'M NO LONGER...
AFRAID OF YOU!
Mother Nature
H. R. MART
SEVEN-FRONT SHIELD.
IT'S TIME FOR YOU TO STOP.
I'VE ALREADY UNTIED THE KNOT.
WHO ...
ARE THEY?
PEOPLE FROM MY JUNIOR HIGH.
WHO HAVE ALWAYS LOOKED DOWN ON ME.

I FAILED THE TEST, AND I LIKE BUTTER-FLIES.
WHAT'S WRONG WITH THAT?!
I'M STILL ME!
...
THESE KIND OF FEELINGS ...
IF YOU DON'T SAY THEM OUT LOUD, NO ONE WILL UNDER-STAND THEM!
IT'S NOT YOUR PROBLEM,
SO OF COURSE YOU CAN TALK ABOUT IT SO LIGHTLY.
"You're the only son in our family. You need to do your best"
"It's OK as long as you're like your father."
I'VE BEEN UNDER PRESSURE SINCE THE DAY I WAS BORN.
IT STARTED EVEN BEFORE I KNEW THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN RIGHT AND WRONG.

"You don't know how to solve these kinds of problems!"
"How are you going to do well on the test?"
"Stop playing around."
"Study harder."
"How could you only get into a second-rate high school?"
"It's because you're too obsessed with butterflies!"
"Did you know? I hear he likes butterflies."
"What a weirdo!"
"A disgrace!"
"What's this all about?"
"You dropped in rank?"
"You really are a disgrace!"

ONLY THE BUTTER-FLIES ..
...KEPT SINGING BY MY SIDE.
NO MATTER HOW I WAS, THEY STAYED BY MY SIDE.
ONLY THE BUTTER-FLIES ..
SOU-ICHI ...
WHEN THE EVIL SPIRIT'S CONTROL ON YOU BECOMES DEEPER AND DEEPER ..
I'M NOT!
ONE DAY ...
THE BUTTER-FLIES WILL ALSO LEAVE YOU.
I'M NOT BEING CONTROL-LED!

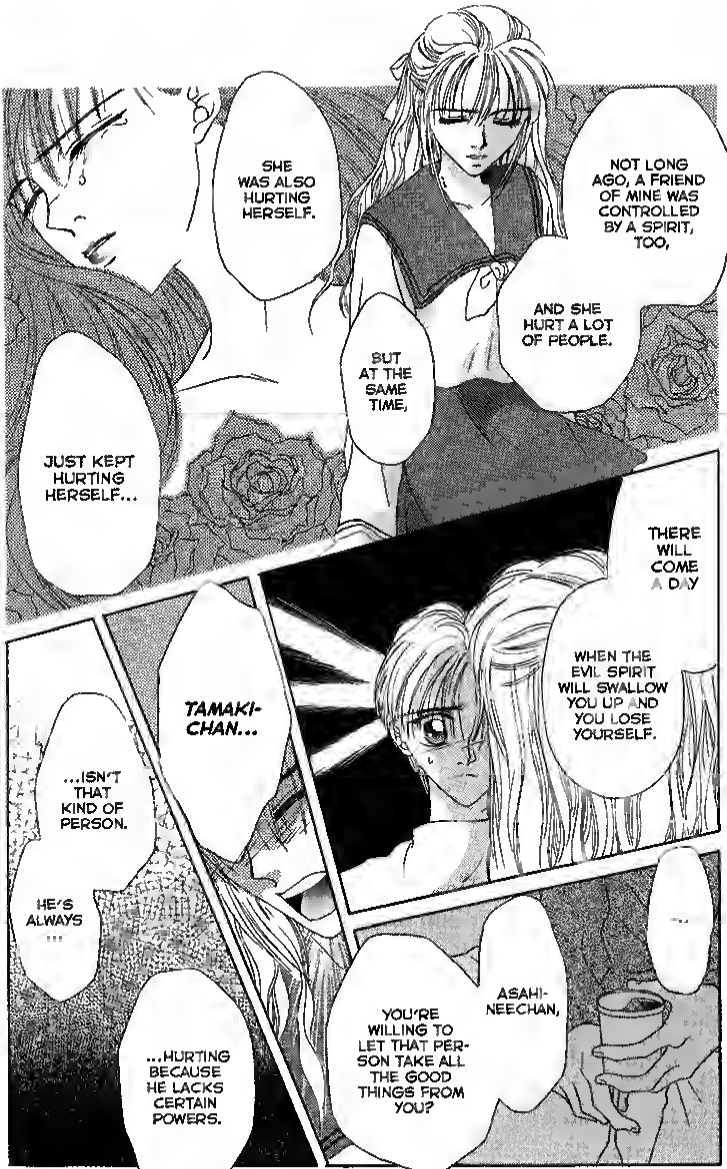
WHY DON'T YOU JUST EXORCISE IT RIGHT AWAY?
DON'T JUST STAND AROUND AND PROTECT THE ONES I HURT!
YOU CAN ENJOY THE FEELING OF KICKING MY DEAD BODY!
WHAT THESE BUTTERFLIES MEAN TO ME IS WHAT SHE MEANS TO YOU, RIGHT?
BUT WHAT WILL THAT WOMAN THINK?
WILL SHE BE WILLING TO STAY WITH A KILLER?
Mother
MARIA

IS THAT SO...
THERE'S NO WAY TO EXORCISE IT.
...
TORI, COME HERE FOR A SEC.
TA-
KICK
GO! MISATSU'S CALLING YOU!
That's too much!
You kicked me!
WHAT'S IT?
Too much!
Too much!

SOU-ICHI!
THAT'S ENOUGH!
YOU ONLY CARE ABOUT THE BUTTER-FLIES THESE DAYS!
EVEN THOUGH YOU DIDN'T GET INTO A GOOD SCHOOL...
Stop it!
NOT GOING TO SCHOOL IS EVEN MORE EMBARASSING!
SHUT UP!
AH ...
IT HURTS ...
DEAR!

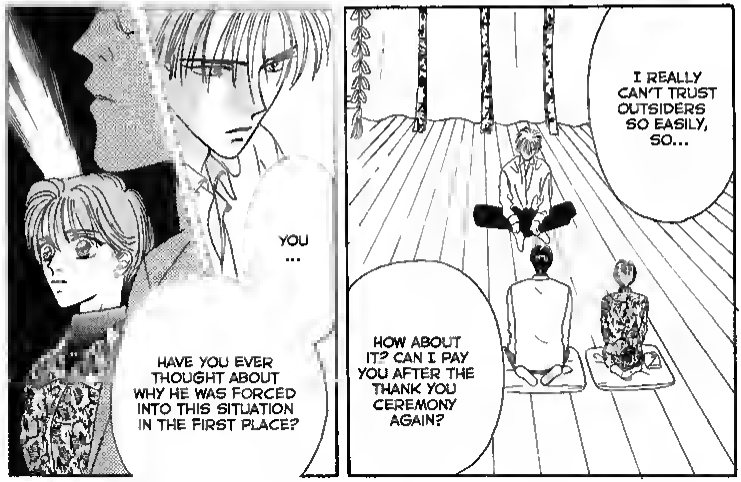
It's different from before...
Did I lose myself at that moment...?
Mother Nature
COME HERE!
"When the evil spirit's control on you..."
"...becomes deeper and deeper."
...
WHAT'S WRONG?
IT CAN'T BE...
I'M STILL ME, RIGHT?
COME A LITTLE CLOSER TO ME!

I MADE PUDDING IN COOKING CLASS! LET'S EAT!
ASAHI-NEE-CHAN!
YEAH!
!
SOU-ICHI!
AH...
I MET THE PERSON WHO YOU LIKE EARLIER.
HE WANTS ME TO DIE THAT BADLY?
I THINK OF THIS AS A GIFT FROM GOD...
THAT I'M ABLE TO STILL BE LIVING AND BREATHING.
YOU'RE ONLY ABLE TO USE THIS ABILITY FREELY NOW, RIGHT?
I REALLY CAN'T GO ON LIKE THIS.


NOT LONG AGO, A FRIEND OF MINE WAS CONTROLLED BY A SPIRIT, TOO,
AND SHE HURT A LOT OF PEOPLE.
BUT AT THE SAME TIME,
SHE WAS ALSO HURTING HERSELF.
JUST KEPT HURTING HERSELF...
THERE WILL COME A DAY
WHEN THE EVIL SPIRIT WILL SWALLOW YOU UP AND YOU LOSE YOURSELF.
TAMAKI-CHAN...
...ISN'T THAT KIND OF PERSON.
HE'S ALWAYS !!!
...HURTING BECAUSE HE LACKS CERTAIN POWERS.
ASAHI-NEECHAN,
YOU'RE WILLING TO LET THAT PERSON TAKE ALL THE GOOD THINGS FROM YOU?
...

...always pains him...
...and the pressure and helplessness he feels as a Guarding Master...
Not being able to summon The Servant...
I'M NOT LYING TO YOU!
HE'S PAINED ABOUT YOUR PROBLEMS!
PAINED ABOUT HOW SERIOUS A PERSON'S LIFE IS!

ALL OF WHAT I'M TELLING YOU IS TRUE...
I HEARD MY WIFE SAY...
...THAT YOU COULD FIND A WAY TO HELP SOUICHI?


I REALLY CAN'T TRUST OUTSIDERS SO EASILY, SO...
HOW ABOUT IT? CAN I PAY YOU AFTER THE THANK YOU CEREMONY AGAIN?
YOU ...
HAVE YOU EVER THOUGHT ABOUT WHY HE WAS FORCED INTO THIS SITUATION IN THE FIRST PLACE?

...
YOU THINK HE WAS FORCED?
IT'S ONLY BECAUSE HE'S WEAK.
DAD, YOU'RE BACK!
YEAH!
AH!
DON'T!
DON'T DO ANYTHING!
THANKS FOR COMING TO GET ME!

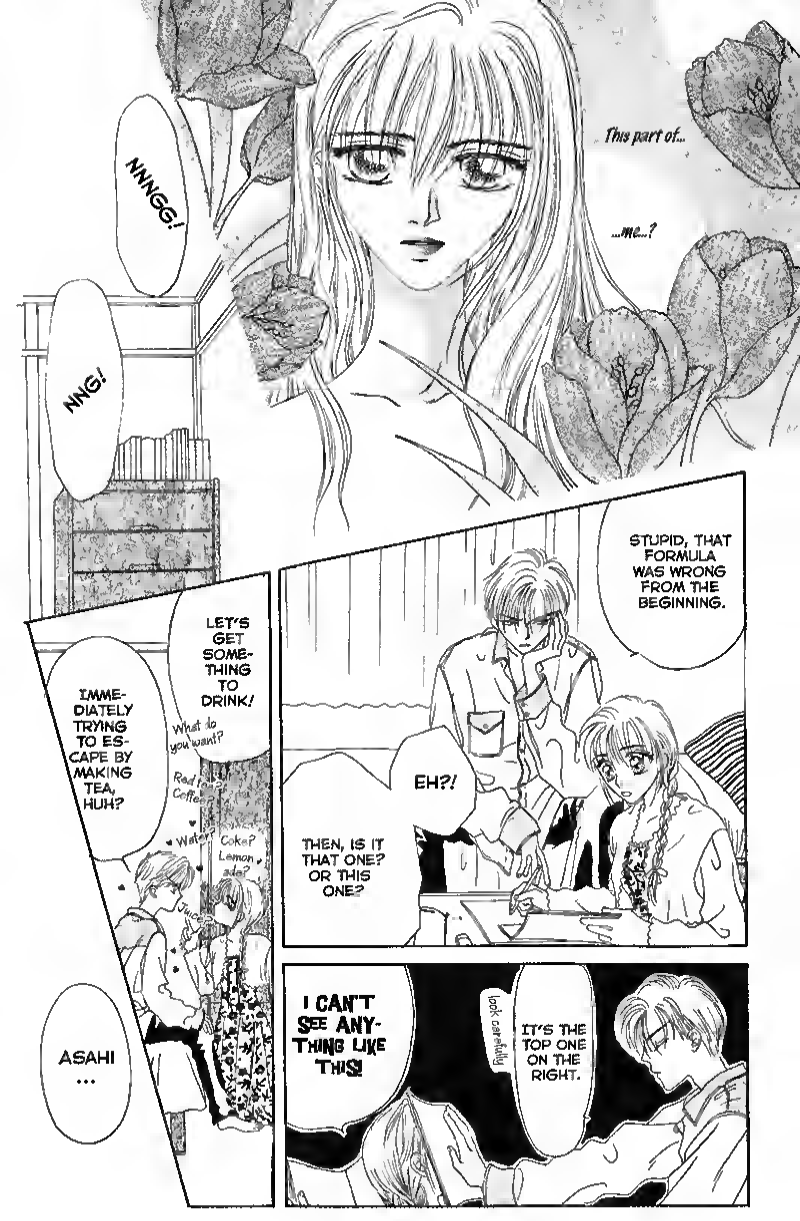
KNEEL
JUST DISAP-PEAR!
Wrong!
TRRR.
TRRR.
TRRR.
So interesting!
This isn't me!
PHONE! ANSWER IT!
TRRR:
Hello! Otsuya residence!
click
REALLY, THAT LAZY OLD HAG.
—TA-MAKI?
THIS IS ... SOU-ICHI.
I DON'T GET IT...

I HAVE TO USE UP A LOT OF STRENGTH TO HOLD IT DOWN...
RECENTLY, I'VE NOTICED THAT I'M BECOMING SOMEONE OTHER THAN MYSELF. .
UNCON-SCIOUSLY USING SOME UNKNOWN POWER.
...SEIZE YOU AND YOUR HEART ..
THE ONLY THING I CAN DO IS...
TO EXOR-CISE IT OUT OF YOU.
IT'S THE ONLY WAY TO PROTECT YOU FROM HAVING AN EVIL SPIRIT...
WILL I REALLY BE CONTROLLED IF IT CON-TINUES LIKE THIS?
WHAT SHOULD I DO?
CAN YOU SAVE ME?
NO.

I CAN'T DO IT
BEEP
CLICK
BEEP
"You're not human."
"Please save this child's life!"
"Aren't Guarding Masters supposed to be the best?"
"Grand-father..."

What...
TAMAKI.
EVEN THOUGH IT'S A PAINFUL DECISION,
IF YOU DON'T EXORCISE IT SOON, IT'LL BE TOO LATE.
BA
NG
WHY?
WHY ISN'T THERE...
WHY ISN'T THERE A WAY TO SAVE SOU-ICHI'S LIFE?
...SOME-THING MORE POWER-FUL?!

PUNCH
YOUR GRAND-FATHER WAS IN THE SAME SITUA-TION SEVERAL TIMES AS WELL!
SEVERAL TIMES!
BUT HE STUCK IT OUT, DIDN'T HE?
HAG!
Oh! Oh! Oh!
THAT'S SO SAD!
WHAT WOULD YOUR GRAND-FATHER THINK IF HE SAW YOU LIKE THIS?
What do I...
...need to save...?
TAMAKI,
YOU NEED TO UNDER-STAND!


This part of...
...me...?
NNNGG!
NNG!
STUPID, THAT FORMULA WAS WRONG FROM THE BEGINNING.
EH?!
THEN, IS IT THAT ONE? OR THIS ONE?
I CAN'T SEE ANY-THING LIKE THIS!
look carefully
IT'S THE TOP ONE ON THE RIGHT.
ASAHI ...
IMME-DIATELY TRYING TO ES-CAPE BY MAKING TEA, HUH?
LET'S GET SOME-THING TO DRINK!
What do you want?
Red Tea?
Coffee?
Water?
Coke?
Lemon ade?
Tea?

TOMOR-
ROW...
I'M GOING TO EXORCISE IT...
DON'T COME.
MM ...
BECAUSE I'M GOING TO KILL SOMEONE.
He's trembling...
I can see it in his eyes...
...and feel it on his lips...

WHERE DID YOU ...
GO...?
"...they will also leave you."
NOT HERE ...
IS IT BE-CAUSE...
...I TURNED INTO AN EVIL SPIRIT?
WHAT IS IT?
DEAR ...
THEY WEREN'T HURT, BUT EVERYONE'S TALKING ABOUT IT...
IT SEEMS THAT HE USED FORCE AGAINST HIS FRIENDS FROM JUNIOR HIGH
DEAR, THAT KID...!
EVERYONE IS...

slowly leaving me.
SOU-ICHI!
SLAP
CLUNK THUD
DEAR ...!
crash
YOU ...
WHAT HAVE YOU DONE?
DD YOU REALLY ENJOY DISGRACING ME THIS MUCH?
DAD ...
SHUT UP!
I DON'T WANT TO HEAR YOU CALLING ME DAD!

I just...
I just –
...DIED EARLIER!
IT WOULD HAVE BEEN BETTER IF YOU HAD DIED BACK THEN!
IT WOULD HAVE BEEN BETTER IF YOU HAD ..
SHAKE

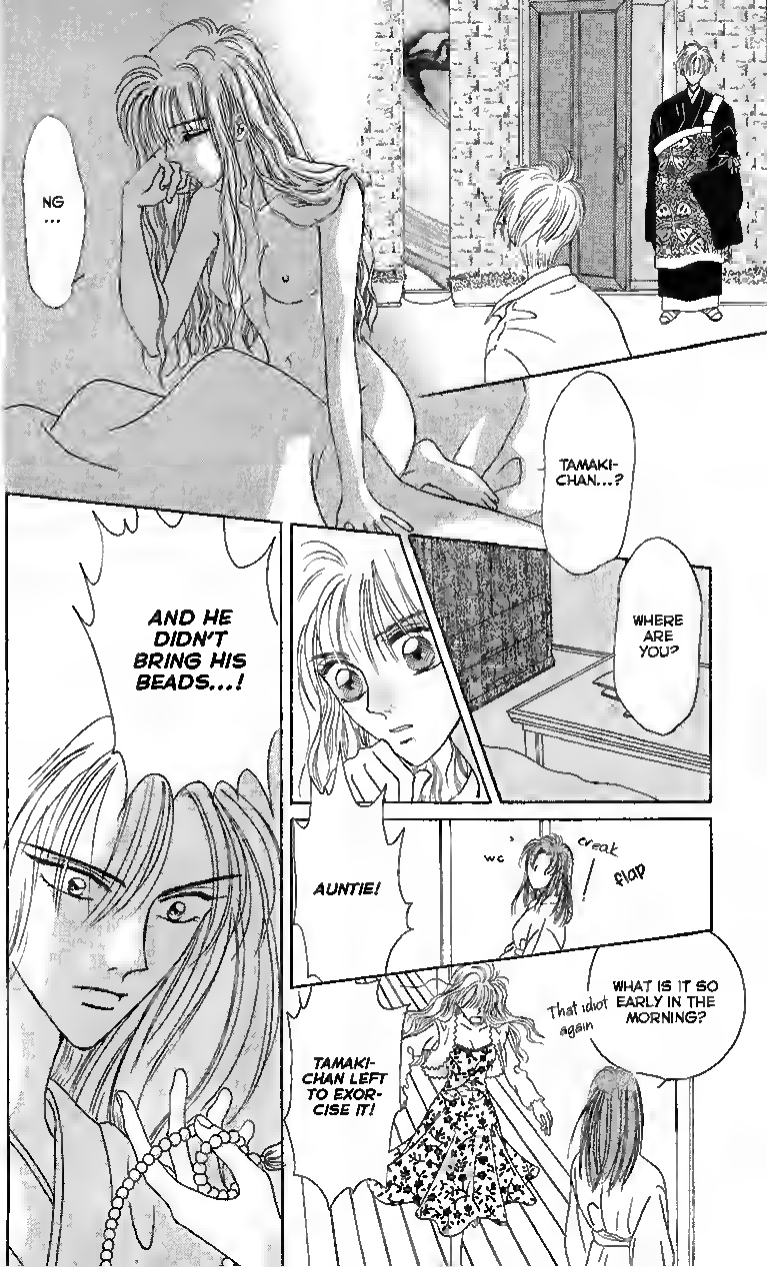
"These kinds of feelings..."
"If you don't say them out loud,"
"no one will understand them!"
DEAR ...
DEAR ...
AH ...

AHHH ...
AH ...
!
WHERE DID YOU GO?
COME HERE!
COME HERE!
GRR ...
COME HERE!

...wanted someone who could understand me!
AH ...
SOU-ICHI...
AH... AH...
"She was also hurting herself."
"But at the same time,"
AH ...
I... just...

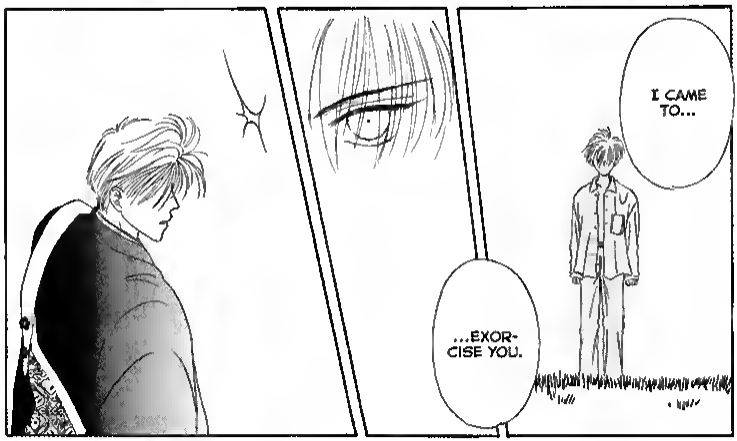
I had hoped that they would tell me, like the butterflies did.
Even if I can't be the son my parents wanted...
Even if my life is a disgrace to them...
"I love you."
I want these words.
Want them to death...
DEAR, PULL YOUR-SELF TOGET-HER!
PULL YOUR-SELF TOGET-HER!
YAWN

YOU ...
HE'S FINE
HE'LL BE FINE IN NO TIME AT ALL
SINCE I'M USING MAGIC
WHERE IS HE?
IN THE GARDEN
JUST SITTING THERE...
click
RUSTLE


NG ...
TAMAKI-CHAN...?
WHERE ARE YOU?
AND HE DIDN'T BRING HIS BEADS...!
AUNTIE!
wc
creak
flap
That idiot again
WHAT IS IT SO EARLY IN THE MORNING?
TAMAKI-CHAN LEFT TO EXOR-CISE IT!

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN HE DOESN'T THE BEADS WITH HIM? CAN HE STILL USE MAGIC?
HE CAN.
HE CAN USE BIG DIPPER AND OTHERS.
IT'S JUST THAT...
IF HE USES HIS GUARDING POWERS, HE'LL HAVE TO EXCHANGE HIS LIFE FOR IT.
ASAHI!
OPEN
SHUT
...

THAT SIDE OF HIM IS EXACTLY LIKE HIS GRAND-FATHER'S...
THAT IDIOT.
REALLY...
Tamaki-chan!
SOU-ICHI!
...


I CAME TO...
...EXOR-CISE YOU.

THUNK
EXOR-
CISE.
IT
HURTS.
I tripped
"You careless, stupid woman!"
WU
...

WOOSH
IS IT GOING TO END LIKE THIS?
GIVE IT ALL YOU GOT!
BAM
BAM
IS THAT ENOUGH?
I have to get there in time!
BECAUSE I'M GOING TO KILL YOU!
...
SCARED
!
STOP IT!

I'M
...
...SO
...
SCARED
...
I beg of you.
PLEASE HELP ME
...
OVER-COME THE DIF-FICUL-TIES...
WHAT'S WRONG?
OH, HONORED YOU WHO SUMMONS THE PATH
...
I have to get there in time!
shock
COUGH
UGH
...
Ughhh
COUGH

RUSTLE
WHY DOES IT HURT SO MUCH?
badump badump
DON'T TAKE AWAY ...
TAMAKI-CHAN'S LIFE!
It's the guarding powers!

Could it be...
petsu ...
Could it be that this person...
shou.
kai...
...is using his life to—
...ioū...

I'M SORRY.
I'm sorry.

ASAHI
...
He...
...did this to protect me?
To protect a person like me?

I'M SORRY ...
IF I HAD BEEN A BETTER CHILD, WOULD YOU HAVE LIKED ME THEN?
MOM?
DAD?
Shock
AH ...
ONLY YOU'RE WILLING TO FORGIVE ME?

AH!
AH ...!

SING
...
...
WAH
...
REALLY
...
THEY'RE
...
...!

Sing for me...
YOU DID WELL.
HIS SILLINESS DIDN'T CHANGE A BIT.
Sing...
SOUICHI...!

...
BUT YOU...
I...
I WASN'T PROTECTING HIS LIFE AT THAT MOMENT. I CHOSE TO PROTECT YOUR LIFE,
SO ...
IN THE END...
...I NEVER GOT A CHANCE TO ASK SOUICHI FOR FORGIVENESS.

I was actually thinking seriously about it, stupid
Ha!
BOTH OF US WON'T BE FORGIVEN!
OK? OK?
LET'S PRACTICE SUMMONING THE SERVANT.
...
?
?
WELL ...
OH, YOU WHO HAS COME HERE...
STAND BEFORE ME. TAKE FORM...
YOU DID IT!
FLY!
IT CAME OUT! TAMAKI-CHAN!
YOU DID IT...
!

...AH!

YOU ...
MUST REALLY LOVE TO MEDDLE INTO THINGS ...
...
HOW BEAU-TIFUL.
TAMAKI-CHAN ...
IT'S REALLY BEAU-TIFUL.
"Did you know?"

"The butterflies are singing..."
"Singing and dancing at the same time, saying..."
"I love you!"
"I love you!"

en·tro·py

1

Phantom Dream

VOLUME 1 CHAPTER 2

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en·tro·py

幻影夢想

The
stars
shall
be
thy
guide

I thought so
That wasn't enough to kill him, huh?
But that's all right
I won't make the same mistake again
This is what you get for betraying me, understand?
Jashin gathers up the darkness in the bottom of our hearts
Those who become so insane that they tear others to pieces are called...
...Jaki

I've come to exorcise the jashin that's possessed you
"Exorcise"?
What are you talking about?
Who's therre?!
Otoya
Creating shieki, summoning gohou...
That's a shichi-boujin shield
They use those spells of protection to exorcise the jashin...
...from humans whp've become Jaki

The successor of the Shugoshi...
...the only one in the world with those powers...
Otoya Tamaki
Will Tamaki-chan ...
...be able to exorcise it?

But his intuition's gotten sharper. Have you noticed?
He sensed a Jaki just by reading it in the paper
Before he wouldn't have noticed until I pointed it out to him
Sometime last night or in the early morning, a resident found A-san,a 23-year old office worker, covered in blood and lying on the road. A-san had blood all over his body, stabbed with a sharp object
He's late!
Who knows, hmm?
I'm sitting here and waiting to welcome him home!
Oh!
It's not like Tamaki will ring the door bell!
Who could it be at this hour?
Ding dong
Ding dong
Yes, yes
Coming!
He's become a much more adept Shigoshi. He's hardly recognizable, compared to how he was before
Frankly, I'm relieved
You're embarr-assing me, seriously!
Oh no
Well, he is your son, after all!

Four

I love video games although I don't have as much time to immerse myself in them as I used to. Maybe I can blame it on simulation games? I wonder if I'll finish Fujimaru Jigokuhen by the time this book is released (I bet I won't be done). It's got 30 chapters, and I've only made it through seven so far. Oh! And there's new hardaware coming out this spring. First I'll play Silver Fox and then I want to get FF7 when it comes out. But before that, I'll finish Fujimaru, Tactics Ogre and Bahamut Lagoon, and then I'll overdose on Vampire Hunter and play the PS version of Robot Taisen! But maybe it's impossible to do all of that. (laughs) If you think I must be pretty good to get through all those games, well...sorry for the misunderstanding! (Laugh)

Come Shichi-boujin!
Revered one, I call upon thy teachings
Eeeeek!
The gohou!

.....
So she made it...

Did you hear that noise?!
Down here! Turn on the lights!
...did you see that?
Kageha...
He...
....failed to summon the gohou

Five

So, about music. Which musicians do I like? I get that kind of question a lot, so let me just say that I like a lot of them! I can't pick a favorite--I like them all! I'm not too into indie artists, though. It's mostly major, mainstream people. As for what type of music, I'd have to say it's across the board. I could start naming musicians I like but I don't think the list would fit in this space, so, I won't. (Laughs) Besides, I don't have any more room for them--Cd's, I mean. And I've been getting more and more books and manga, so now it looks like a tornado's passed through my room. If I could use magic, the 1st thing I'd do is clean this room! I take my habit of relying on others to do stuff for me to the extreme. But, you know how it is! And you're babbling again Takaya-san! (Laughs)

Just then...
...I got the chills
It felt like when I sense Jaki, but.....
No...
It felt like something deeper than that
Ta...
I missed you so much!
Didn't I just saw you 3 hours ago?
maaaki-chaaaan, welcome home!
You've got comapany
Tamaki
Oops
A mountain of CDs that could tumble down at any time..

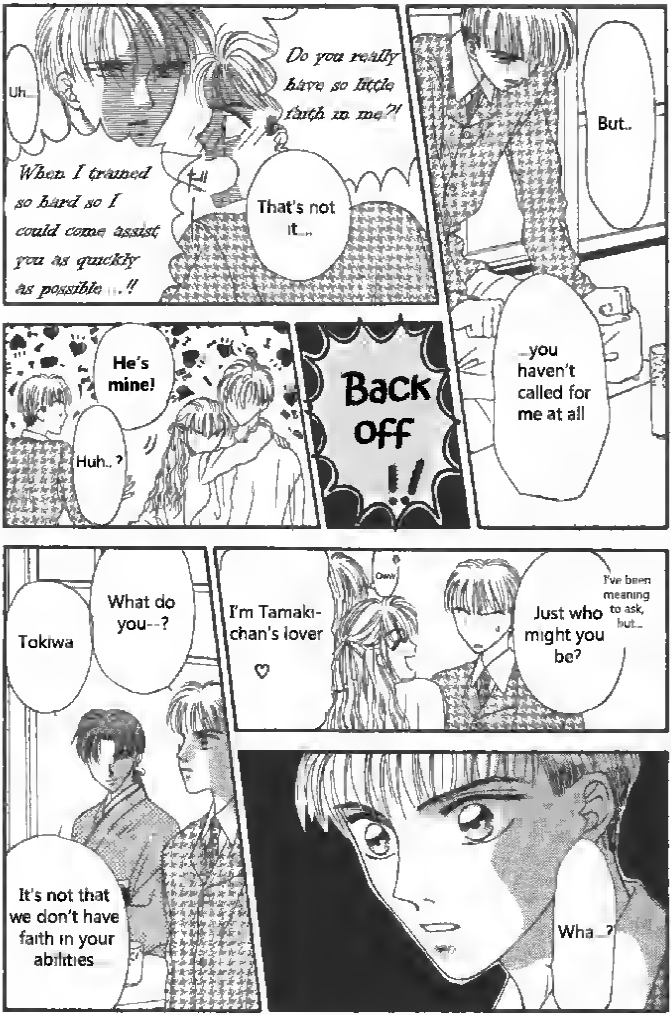
To
Tokiwa!
I'm glad to see you looking so well
It must be about 5 years since we've seen each other!
Nii-sama ...!!
A couple of them
It's a little embarrassing to admit, but we're the main branch
Don't just stand there, come inside
Wow, I didn't know you had branch families
Huh? you hsve a ypunger brother?
Of course not
He's Otoya Tokiwa--from the branch family
He's two years younger than us

So, why're you--?
Not to change the subject, but...
...were you able to fulfill your duties, Tamaki?
.....
No
I couldn't exorcise her
The gohou is asleep

It's entered a growth period
This is my first time seeing a real gohou
Wow, it really is
Incredible!
A growth period?
It takes more than just training to be able to summon a gohou
They can only be summoned by people who've inherited Shogoshi blood
It's something else that belongs only to the successor
That part of him is growing stronger

You're getting cooler all the time, Tamaki-chan!
I haven't seen you in so long, yet even I can tell!
In other words...
...Tamaki's leveled up
Wow
!!
Really ?
I wouldn't have noticed.
They're a lot alike, aren't they..?
I followed her all the way to Tokyo
What a pain. Having a magical growth spurt is all good and well, but it interferes with your powers.
If the Jaki finishes taking her over before you've adjusted,then--
You can use me, can't you?!
Her name is Imaizumi Haruka. She's 23 yrs old and lives alone in Kobe
Look, right now the target is that guy at the hospital
I had a shieki research that Jaki

Children born into the branch families are raised to be the exorcist's defenders
They are taught the defensive spell of "hi", which temporarily keeps the Jaki from growing
They honor and protect the Shugoshi
This bond has existed for generations and has a rich history
Have you forgotten?
I'm a successor to the Higoshi-- A hereditary defender of the Shugoshi!
The reason I came here today was to see if I could assist Nii-sama!
To stand at his side, helping to exorcise Jaki...!!!


Uh...
When I trained so hard so I could come assist you as quickly as possible...!!
Do you really have so little faith in me?!
That's not it...
But..
...you haven't called for me at all
He's mine!
Huh..?
Back off!!
Tokiwa
What do you--?
It's not that we don't have faith in your abilities
I'm Tamaki-chan's lover ♡
Owa!
Just who might you be?
I've been meaning to ask, but...
Wha...?

Kaname-san...
...we just haven't felt the need to bother the branch families for help
You're tired, right? I'll go get a room ready for you so you can rest up
...
I'm glad the two of you are so comfortable together...
...but...
I don't want something like that to happen again
Tokiwa, huh?
It's been five years since I saw him...
He's been attached to me ever since he was little

The tortured Tamaki-chan I knew_
_has disappeared
He really looks up to you! He can see how amazing you are!
And you're growing, you know!
"Amazing", hmm?
I don't have to watch him hate himself
Not anymore
Now he's just trying to carry the weight of his karma....
...living in a world I don't know anything about

Self-Control
Whoa
I can't. Tokiwa's here
.....
But it doesn't bother you when it's just mother, huh?
There's only one thing
I can do
"I love you, Haruka"
"Please wait for me"
"I'll come get you, I promise"
Nothing but a stupid delusion
Nothing but betrayal
Just you wait...

I'll get my revenge
Just like I thought
I can't tell where the Jaki is
I can't even use my spells properly
I didn't know I'd be hendicapped like this while my powers were growing
Yeah, I've got a bed feeling ebout this
It'd better wake up soon,or...

You're up early
I thought I'd do some work as well
Good morning
And, nii-same..
..I..really am in awe...
When I saw you, his successor...
..that you and your powers have grown so much stronger
I first met you when...
your grandfather- the previous Shugoshi-- passed away

When I heard that Jaki were appearing I thought it was finally time
At home, they try not to talk about it
So I came out here, thinking that maybe... your family...
!!
that I wanted to defend the successor
It was then that...
I first decided
you were so much like him
You both seemed very beautiful to me
That I want to become strong

Time for school!
Morning, Tamaki-chaan!
Oh
You, too, Tokiwa-chan! Morning!
G—
Good morning!
I'll just go say hi to mother, 'kay?
Nii-sama, that reminds me!
I wanted to ask you....
...do you keep that girl with you? She's from a completely different world!
Why...
Nii-sama, you should find someone more suited to you
You know you have to take...

Guess they forgot to put that in the handbook
.....
...some-one like Kaame-san...
...a woman with power, as your wife!
Sorry to keep you waiting!
.....!?
...like she doesn't have a single thought in her head
Mayb... she's just stalking him or something...?
Hee hee
She looks vapid...
That's no good!!!
It was a shock...
but he waves anyway
...to hear nii-sama say such a thing
Bye bye! See you later! ♡

WHAT!?
Why? Y-you don't have another girlfriend on the side, do you?!
I have to go somewhere, so--
You don't right?
You can go home without me today
Asahi
What can a girl like that do?!
Do you have to announce it?
Tamaki-chan, I'll wait at the temple until you come home,ok? ♡
Shouldn't I?
Waah!
You hit me! Oooh, you meanie!
I'm going to that hospital!
But...
...that's right...
Guess that lady's still a Jaki
He can't use the Jyohou right now...
...but he still has to keep an eye on his target

Uh huh ♡
Dummy
I won't be late
Your warding seals are nothing but paper, aren't they?
That'll happen when they're set by someone so weak...
!?

Huh ?
There's a guest!
Asahi-chan...
I don't mind,but...
Could you, uh, go pick up some things for me? Here's the list
Bye bye!

You...
!!!
Is the ruse because she's nothing but...
a by-stander?
!!!
Why do you look so shocked?
You didn't even worry about the fact that I exist?
Did you relax because you thought our bloodline had disappeared?
Did you honestly believed that we'd been destroyed .....
....even though the Jaki still appear amongst you?

Ah! You mean Harada-san?
Actually,he transferred to another hospital this morning
Is the patient in room 302 allowed to have visitors?
Let me see
He said there's one that's closer to his house That's more convinient for him
And he lives ?
Somewhere near Kobe, I think?
Huh ...?
He lives in the same area as Imaizumi Haruka ..
Maybe she's not around here anymore

Yeeees?
Um, Asahi-san?
It seems like you don't know, so I should tell you
Someday nii-sama's going to have to leave you
going to have to marry a woman that the family chooses for him, so...
He won't be with you forever
Nii-sama is...
I'm sorry
...for dragging you off to go shopping with me
No, that's...

Mother... Tamaki-chan's mother... told me when I was little
I know
...why doesn't it... ...bother you?
B-but then...
Oh,no... What happened to her?
Ma'am!
That lady!
Tokiwa-chan!
You know he'll have to betray you some day,but you--

Are you all right?!
Can we help you?
My legs...
...they're hurt....
You're bleeding! We've got to make it stop!
A warding seal?!
How can that be...?!
No matter how weakened I am right now...
...no Jaki should be able to break it, let alone a human!

By now,you must've figured out what I want, right?
Give me the Suigekka!
So just hand it over quickly
My family's treasure that your family stole
The source of the power that can awaken everyone
We meet again, hmm?
!
Tamaki
You the one that broke the seals?

Well, look at that
Home so soon...
...shugoshi dono?
Perfect timing
After all, you should know the truth, too.
Isn't that right.....?
...o lady **mother?**
.....?
Thank you...
It's ok!
Huh?
You've been so kind, but...
...I feel so sorry for you
Because you'll be betrayed, just like I was just a little whilwe ago
I can't let you suffer like I did...

Or else...
No...!
Let her go!
A Jaki!
Now...
Let's get going unless you want that kid to die
Tokiwa-chan!

Ngh.....
That was a Jaki!
Tell me, Shugoshi...
...do you really believe that jashin alone is enough to change people into Jaki?
That was...
Ha!
...about the people you call Jaki
How stupid can you be?
I'll teach you...

Jahou...
...tsukai?
Jashin...
...are wonderful human emotions
If you cast a curse into the darkness in their hearts...
...people are liberated from torment and sorrow...
...and are reborn!
...part of the Gekka family
Every one of them is...
And I'm the Jahoutsukai--the black magician who awakened them

!!
So why do you exorcise them?
The truth is that Jaki are strong humans who've stripped away their own weakness
Tamaki!
You're wrong!
Is that what humans should be?!
They cut others to ribbons! They slaughter strangers for fun!

Tamaki
Oof
You're really pathetic
Is this really supposed to be a shield?
Pitiful
Now tell me, what's this?
You're so.... agitated
All
Right now, you're so very weak.

Weakness is the true sin
A beautiful utopian world where we can all live without fear crippling our souls
The Gekka family dreams of a world where it doesn't even exist
All
That is what I am trying to create
...where is the Suigekka?
Now...
All.
You'd do well to tell me
You can sit there and suffer for a while
I'll face you again soon

Heh...
Ha ha ha...
...ha
Hmm?
Everything depends on it
Both my utopian world and I--
I'll destroy it for you...
You're the one who'll be destroyed!!!!

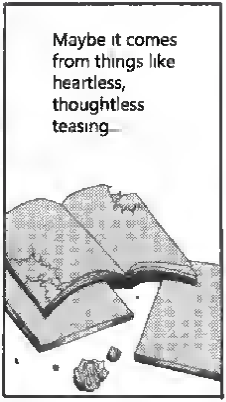
Tamaki-chan?
I'm very sorry....
...for bringing you to a place like this
...I'll kill your boyfriend for you, too
After all, they can't be forgiven, can they?
I will kill them! I will!!
And then...
I'm going to find that man, and this time I will kill him
She's starting to go crazy...
I will kill them!
I will kill them..!!!
カラ
Tamaki-chan...

Kaname-san...
N-nii-sama...
He...just created a shield when he was already weak, so he collapsed...
It's all right...
...tell me it's only a dream....
Someone...
Someone....

Request

...I was overwhelmed by despair

On the way home from school...

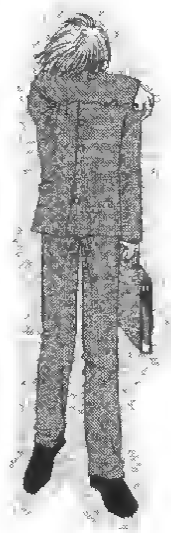


If you asked me what kind, or why....

...I wouldn't have an answer for you

I shouldn't feel ashamed of it
I'm myself. Just myself
I think up only stupid things...
So I reject everything and think about stupid things...
I'm already...
It's all pointless, so...
...when do I get to escape it?
I...
...so lonely I can't take anymore

All I want is to express is this pain in my heart

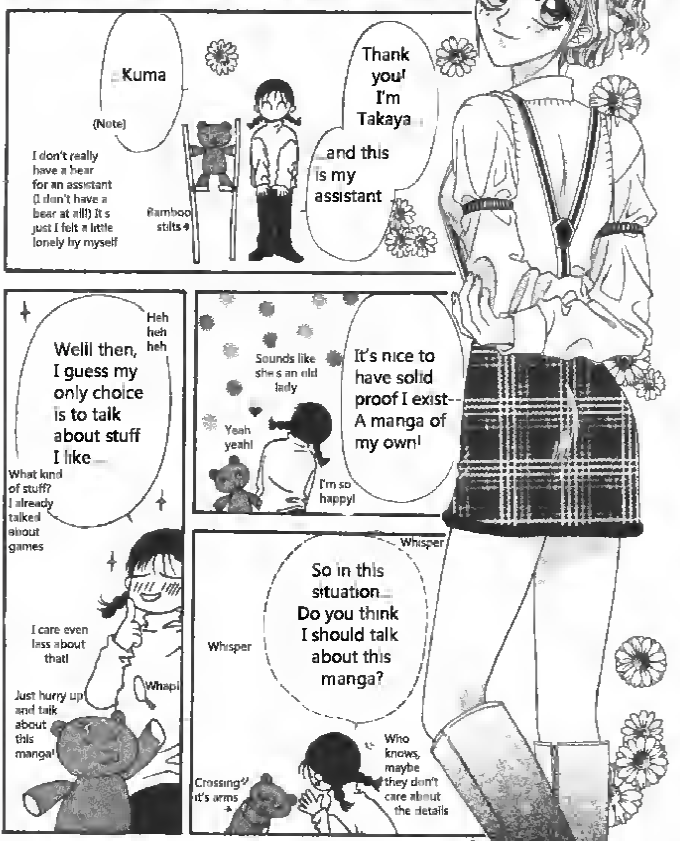


"Request"/ End

Natsuki Takaya's

Just Between Us

I have a feeling there's not a lot to say here, but I guess that's ok!


Kuma
(Note)
I don't really have a bear for an assistant (I don't have a bear at all!) It's just I felt a little lonely by myself
Bamboo stilts
Thank you! I'm Takaya
...and this is my assistant
Heh heh heh
Welll then, I guess my only choice is to talk about stuff I like
What kind of stuff? I already talked about games
I care even less about that!
Whap!
Just hurry up and talk about this manga!
Sounds like she's an old lady
Yeah yeah!
It's nice to have solid proof I exist-- A manga of my own!
I'm so happy!
Whisper
Whisper
So in this situation... Do you think I should talk about this manga?
Who knows, maybe they don't care about the details
Crossing it's arms

Quick, which one's Mitsuru?
When I first began thinking about the plot, Asahi and Mitsuru were supposed to ba the main charactars---IMAGINE THAT! In that version Tamaki was in a situation similar to the one I wrota Mitsuru in I thought it over and dacided a boy-girl pair would be bettar for tha laad and that is how it turned out.In voluma 1 I said the art lookad "like this", but now that I take a closer look, mayba it hasn t changed much at all. (Just a littla more rope and you can hang yoursalf Takaya-san) But Tamaki's hair dafinataly kaaps gatting longar It might be a nice change to make it that lenght again
When I was in high school there was a girl in my class with really long hair, and I wondered what she did with it when she went to the bathroom I heard somaona say that sha wound it around har neck and I thought that made sense. I wonder if Mitsuru does that, too. (Think about something alsel)
I faal lika I didn t hava anough tima for this manga Thanks! That s not so good is it? By tha way, tha buttarflies Souichi kept were atrophanaura alcinous. Butterflies usually make me nervous, but I think atropheneura alcinous ara pretty-- all translucent gold and black edges (thair wings I maan) Thara must be peopla out there whosa situation is lika Souichi's, or who think lika him Probably? But I'm sure there s hope always Even just a little bit of it. I've made it this fer believing that, somahow (Laughs)

Eiji finally made his appearance! My editor said I could let him join the story now. I remember being really happy about that. I really really wanted to use him in the first chapter and second chapter, but, well...this is how he debuted, so I guess it's all good. I think things look more traditionally Japanese in this chapter. Do you think? No matter what, it seems very ..um...chaki chaki** Japanese. (Guess that's an obsolete word). But traditional Japanese things are nice, aren't they? The 4 seasons, the speech, the food...but you mustn't think," Then do you hate Americam England, China, etc?" They're all nice in their own ways, so...(So anything goes, then?) Right now, the chapters of Phantom Dream I'm working on are going slowly,or kind of not slowly. (Laughs). In this chapter Eiji is so forceful that it makes me think, " This brings back memories." (Or not) It's the same for Asahi, all bubbly with love. **chaki chaki-is an outdated way of saying "efficiently"

I wonder if Tamaki-chan noticed?
As of this section, I've been left out four times!
Why didn't you draw a bonus illustration of me?!!
Hey !!
Heh heh
Poor Tekiwa
I'm on the inside flap of the front cover, you know
W-well yo re a main character, so...
Isn't the Jahoutsukai a main character too?!!

I'm so grateful to everyone!

And at the very end, shouldn't I make sure to tell everyone how thankful I am,and mane everyone who's supported me? Of course! And so....

My father and mother never once opposed my dream to create manga. In fact, they cheered me on.

My sister let me borrow her name and gave me a chance to become a manga creator.

My first editor, Tanaka-sama, made me suffer a little because I'm slow to catch on, she probably wanted to give me a hard time to get me on the right path.

Takado-sama, my current editor, helps with the crucial lines of this manga series. (Laughs)

My friends, Akitoshi-sama, Mai-sama and Fujisaki-sama, still like me even though I talk and act pretty strangely--just for starters, there's my " pi to Would Be Ok in Outer Space, Too" theory.

And then there's Hotoda-sama, Ogawa-sama and Murase-sama

I'm sorry I couldn't answer all of your letters. And Tama-chan, I'm sarry I didn't send you a manga.

And then, of course....

The people who read Phantom Dream. The people who always read my work.The people who take the time to send me letters. Everyone,thank you so much! Mwah!

Please treat me kindly in the future, too! (bows) I created this story slowly, complaining non-stop, but I hope you liked it at least a little! Was it totally no good? I hope not--I don't want that to happen (laughs) Well then, I'll bid you farewell. See you another time!

This was Natsuki Takaya

Hello, there!
And so this chapter
concludes volume 1
of Phantom Dream.
Wow,this is the first
actual book I've finished,and
even though I'm only cleaning
and typesetting,it's quite a lot
of work....
I hope that you are enjoying
the story, and we'll see each other
in the next volume!

-Catandmouse